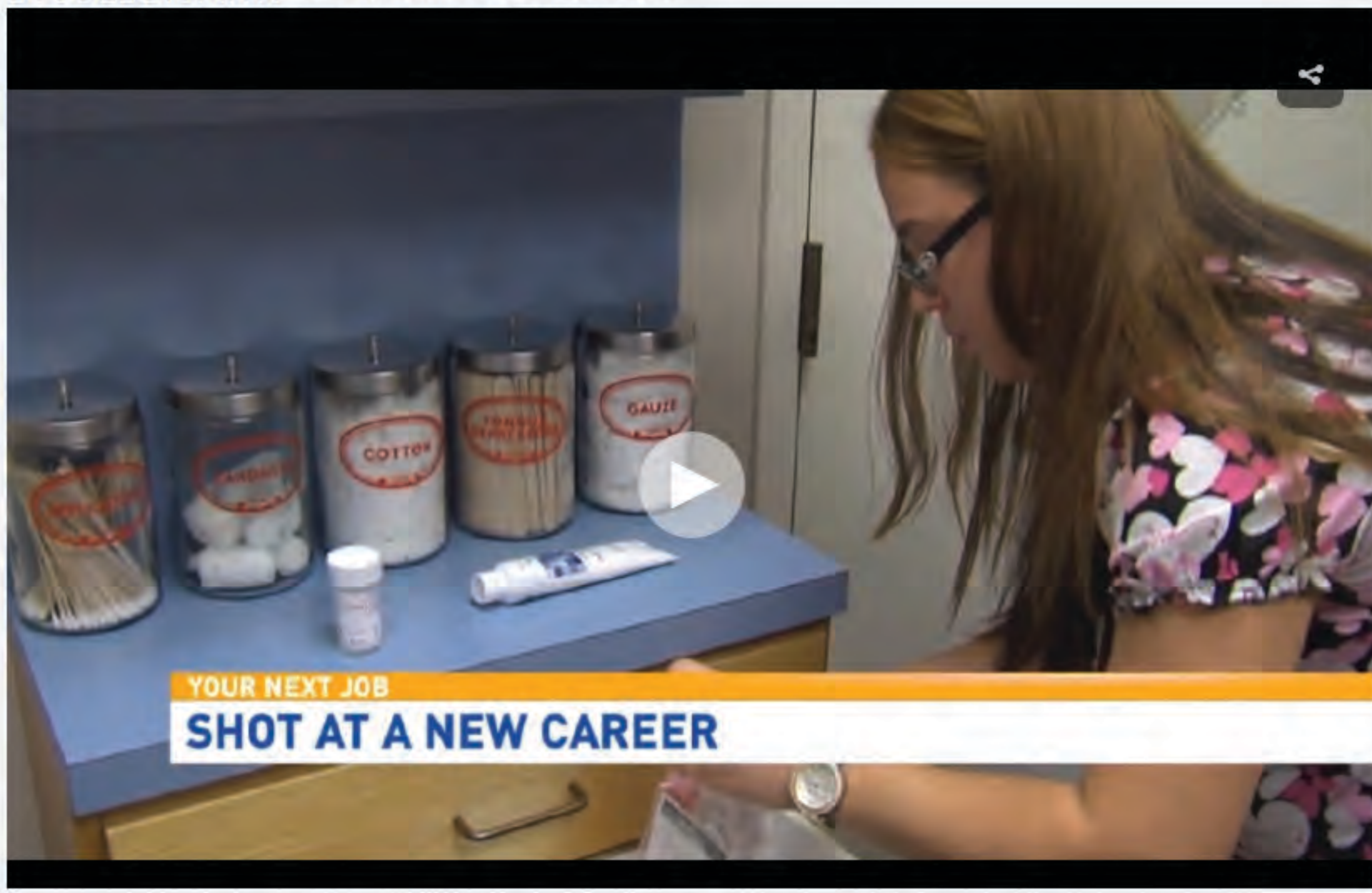


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Your Next Job: Your Shot At A New Career

BY JOEL D. SMITH | MONDAY, OCTOBER 17TH 2016



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It's the kind of job, when you're called an angel one minute... and the next, a child is screaming at you like you're the devil.

There's never a dull day, if "Your Next Job" is working as a Medical Assistant.

We went to Cornerstone Family Health in Lititz to meet a soon-to-be graduate of YTI's 21 month program to become a Medical Assistant, and instead we found a woman who's basically in her field already. Coraima Abreu seems like the kind of person who was born work in healthcare. She says she grew up watching Emergency Room reality TV with her mom and always thought about helping people in that way. Abreu laughs when she talks about her favorite parts of the job, which include drawing blood. She considers it a challenge. She says, "You have patients where right away you can see a vein, perfect here it is. Then you have patients, where you don't see the vein, and you're like ... it's here."

When it comes to giving youngsters their flu shots, it takes some more creativity.

Abreu says, "We try to hide the needle from them. That way they don't have a fear, they don't see it coming. We talk them through it, get their mind off of what is about to happen."

If those tricks don't work, YTI students also take a Psychology course to help deal with the most challenging patients. Coraima admits, "Some can be really nice, some can be extremely vulgar and nasty. So it's a matter of staying positive, being professionals and dealing with the situation."

Lynne Harper is the Nurse Manager at Cornerstone Family Health and knows all about the ups and downs of dealing with people who want to be anywhere but with you. She says, "That's true. We see people at their worst. we really do. By the end of externship, they're either going to make it or they're not."

The externship from YTI is the final 3 months of the 21 month program, and sometimes the stay happily gets longer. Coraima just got some news she had to tell her mom about. She says, "I called her, and was like hey mom. i have some amazing news. She was like, you got hired! I was like -- yes!

There is a large need for nurses and medical assistants in our area.

According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, the average pay for medical assistants is \$13-- \$15 dollars an hour.

If you choose to train at YTI, the next classes for medical assistants are forming right now. For more information, <http://www.yti.edu/programs/Medical-Assistant.asp>

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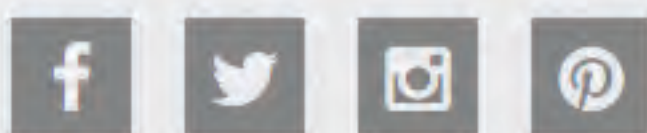
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